

Aug. 15. 2007 12:48PM MacPherson, Kwok, Chen & Heid
App. Ser. No. 10/521,397
Amendment dated Aug. 16, 2007
Reply to Office action of May 16, 2007

AUG 15 2007 No. 0819 P. 8
Docket No. AB-1408 US
Ref. No. (OPP 043108 US)

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above amendment and the following remarks accompany a request for continued examination RCE of this application and are in reply to the final Office action of 05/16/2007. In light of this reply, reconsideration and further examination of this application are respectfully requested.

Twenty claims were pending in this application. In the above amendment, 2 claims (1 and 10) were amended, and none was added or cancelled. Accordingly, 20 claims remain pending for reconsideration and further examination.

In section 3 of the Office action, claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nishikawa et al. (US 7,119,870).

In light of the above amendments to independent claims 1 and 10 and the remarks that follow, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection is now moot.

In particular, independent claims 1 and 10 now include the following distinguishing limitations:

Claim 1:

“... at least one of the first and second domain partitioning members has at least a center portion and at least one branch extending from the center portion,
the center portion is oblique with respect to the gate line or the data line, and
the branch is parallel or perpendicular with respect to the gate line or the data line.”

(Emphasis added.)

Claim 10:

“... at least one of the first and second cutout patterns has at least a center portion and at least one branch extending from the center portion,
the center portion is oblique with respect to the gate line or the data line, and
the branch is parallel or perpendicular with respect to the gate line or the data line.”

(Emphasis added.)

The Nishikawa et al. '870 reference describes several embodiments of a vertically aligned LCD having “orientation control windows” 36 formed in an “opposing electrode 34” in each of the pixels of the LCD that are shaped like a pair of connected Y's (one of which is inverted), function to divide the direction of orientation of the liquid crystals in each of the pixels

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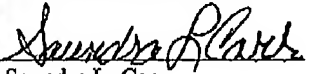
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into a plurality of orientation directions, coupled with "drain signal lines 54" (i.e., data lines) that are "formed along the orientation control windows 36." ('870, Figs. 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14; col. 7, lines 35-67, col. 8, lines 1-24.)

However, Nishikawa et al. do not teach or suggest the above limitations for the orientation control windows. In light of this distinction, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 10, together with the claims respectively dependent from them, are patentably distinct over the Nishikawa et al. '870 reference.

In light of the above reply, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-20 are now allowable over the art of record, and accordingly, respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If there are any questions regarding this reply, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

Certification of Facsimile Transmission	
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.	
	Aug. 15, 2007
Sandra L. Carr	Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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